

## Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: S/S-O:LMATTESON

APPROVED BY: S/S-O:LMATTESON

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P 092148Z OCT 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO CIMCPAC HONONLULU HI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241299

FOLLOWING REPEAT CINCPACREP GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS P 090553Z OCT 75  
SENT SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L //N00000//

SECSTATE FOR IATF PUBLIC AFFAIRS FROM HERBERT

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PLANNING

STATE 237986

1. FULLY RECOGNIZE THAT SAILING DATE OF VIETNAM THUONG TIN ONE  
BEING DETERMINED IN WASHINGTON AND NOT ON NIMITZ HILL, GUAM. WE  
NEED TO KNOW WHAT SAILING DATE HAS BEEN SELECTED IN ORDER TO PLAN  
ACTIVITIES RELATED TO PUBLIC AFFAIRS. MOST IMPORTANT IS WHAT TO  
TELL THE REPATRIATES WHO NOW EXPECT 14 OCTOBER AS PROBABLE DATE.  
REASONS FOR DELAY DUE TO TINY NUMBER OF CONUS REPATS IS HARD TO  
EXPLAIN SINCE THERE WILL HAVE BEEN TWO WEEKS IN WHICH TO GET  
THEM HERE. WE OFTEN GIVE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, BUSINESS EXECUTIVE,  
AND MILITARY OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES ONLY A FEW HOURS NOTICE;  
HENCE IT IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN INORDINATE DELAYS BECAUSE OF  
TENDER TREATMENT OF PEOPLE WHO DON'T WANT TO STAY IN THE USA AT  
ALL. WE NEED TO KNOW DATE IN ORDER TO MAKE HONEST EXPLANATION  
AND RETAIN OUR CREDIBILITY. NEXT, WE DESIRE TO NOTIFY NEWS  
MEDIA AT LEAST 24 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF SAILING. THERE ARE STRINGERS  
HERE FOR UPI, AP, ABC, CBS RADIO AND TV. HOWEVER, ESTIMATE THAT  
NETWORKS MAY DESIRE MORE ADVANCE NOTICE SO AS TO MOVE IN CAMERA  
CREWS, ETC. FROM TOKYO, HONG KONG OR HONOLULU. HAVE ALREADY  
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RECEIVED CALLS FROM BBC-TV TOKYO AND NBC-TV HONG KONG TO WHICH WE

SHOULD RESPOND.

2. PER PARA 6 OF REFTTEL, REQUEST YOUR APPROVAL FOR CONDUCT OF BRIEFING 24 HOURS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF VIETNAM THUONG TIN ONE. SCC PLUS REPATRIATE LEADERS WOULD MAKE PRESENTATIONS. THIS WOULD BE DONE AT SHIPYARD REPAIR FACILITY WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR MEDIA TO VISIT SHIP AFTERWARDS. VN CREW WOULD BE AT STATIONS ON BOARD TO RESPOND TO QUERIES. U.S. ASSISTANCE WOULD BE CREDITED BUT LOW KEY.
3. ON DEPARTURE DAY, PRESS WOULD BE PERMITTED TO OBSERVE BOARDING OF REPATRIATES AND GO ON BOARD FOR LIMITED PERIOD JUST PRIOR TO SAILING.
4. LOCAL NEWS MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES HAVE REQUESTED AUTHORITY TO GO ABOARD PATROL AIRCRAFT THAT MONITOR VOYAGE FROM NAS AGANA OR CUBI POINT. ALSO ANTICIPATE SIMILAR REQUESTS FROM NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL MEDIA. FURTHER, PUBLIC RELEASE OF NAVY OVERFLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY MAY BE APPROPRIATE. REQUEST GUIDANCE.
5. REQUEST PERMISSION TO INFORM REPATRIATE LEADERSHIP CONCERNING GENERALITIES OF NAVY PLAN FOR MONITORING VOYAGE OF THUONG TIN 1. THEIR PLAN WILL BE PREPARED SOON AND IF IT IS LIKE THE REST OF NAVY PREPARATIONS, IT WILL BE SPLENDID. IT WILL PROVIDE NEEDED REASSURANCE TO REPATRIATES. INFORMATION HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY LOCAL PRESS AS WELL AS BY REPATRIATES. HERBERT SENDS. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, REPATRIATION, MARINE TRANSPORTATION, SHIPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE241299  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:LMATTESON  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750351-1017  
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**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES; SHIP SAILING DATE  
**TAGS:** SREF, EWWT, XC, VS, GQ, US  
**To:** CINCPAC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006